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OPI REPORT

Office of Public Instruction
Ed Argenbright
Superintendent

JUNE 1987

Nicholson Chairs Education Board

Alan Nicholson of Helena has been selected chairman of the State Board of Public Education, succeeding Ted Hazelbaker, whose two-year term as chairman ended. Hazelbaker remains on the board. Arthur "Rocky" Schauer of Libby is the new vice chairman.

Great Falls Drug Awareness Program Honored

The Great Falls Public Schools Chemical Awareness Through Responsive Education (CARE) program has won an Outstanding Student Assistance Program Award for its anti-drug abuse efforts. The student awareness program was honored at a national conference in Chicago.

State Special Education Staff Changes

Gail Gray, State Director of Special Education, has been appointed Director of the Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Her successor at the Office of Public Instruction is Bob Runkel, who assumed duties on June 1.

Circle Student is National Essay Contest Winner

Joanna James, a 4th grader at Redwater School in Circle, is one of 150 national winners of the U.S. Department of Education's essay contest commemorating the 200th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

State departments of education selected essays by students in grades 1-8 on the theme, "What the Constitution Means to Me and Our Country," and forwarded them to the national competition. Over 1300 essays were submitted nationwide. Montana was allowed eight entries, based on two per congressional delegate.

Joanna was the only national winner from Montana. She and her mother, Judy James of Circle, attended award ceremonies in Washington, D.C. at the end of May. Joanna's teacher at Redwater School is Delia Groh.

Order Your Academic Fitness Awards

School officials have until June 30 to order Presidential Academic Fitness Award certificates from the U.S. Department of Education. The awards are given to graduating students from elementary, middle, junior and senior high schools who have maintained a B-plus average and who score in the 80th percentile on standardized achievement tests. Graduating seniors must have completed at least 12 units in the basics (English, math, science, social studies, foreign languages and computer science) to be eligible.

Students who do not meet all of the academic criteria but who have made an extraordinary effort to improve their academic achievement are eligible for Extraordinary Effort Awards.

Information is available from the Presidential Academic Fitness Awards, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202.

Institute for Rural Teachers

Aspen, Colorado, is the site of the National Institute for the Enrichment of Rural Teaching on July 21-26, sponsored by the National Rural Education Association and the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies. The institute combines sessions and field study. For information, contact NREA-ACES, PO Box 8777, Aspen, CO 81612.

Nominations Sought for Exemplary Partnership Awards

Industry representatives and educators may submit entries for the 1987 National Association of Industry-Education Cooperation (NAIEC) Awards program, which recognizes exemplary industry-education cooperative/partnership programs, projects and activities in the categories of sponsorship and use of materials.

The Educational Sponsorship Award honors a business, firm, trade or professional society for effective cooperation in education projects in any subject area. These projects might include printed matter, films, radio and television broadcasts or other activities conducted jointly by industry and education.

NAIEC's Utilization Award recognizes the outstanding skill and success of an educator in using industry-sponsored programs and materials for learning activities.

Entries should include a comprehensive description of the program (sponsorship) or individual (utilization): title of project, name of sponsor, purpose, contributions, project details, including impact and supporting evidence such as testimonials, comments and exhibits, and the name, title, address and telephone number of the nominator.

Entries must be sent no later than August 31 to: NAIEC Awards Committee Chairman, Walter Purdy, Director of Education, Edison Electric Institute, 1111 19th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Schools Urged to Use Teacher of the Year Materials

By now school district and county superintendents have received information flyers and official candidate portfolios for the 1988 Montana Teacher of the Year program. Because the application format has changed considerably since last

year, you are encouraged to look over these materials carefully as you begin your nomination procedures.

If you do not plan to use the official candidate portfolio (the green packet), please pass it on to administrators, teachers or others interested in making a nomination, or return it unused to the Teacher of the Year Program Coordinator, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620, for recirculation.

School for the Creative Arts

Does your school have a gifted dancer? If so, he or she may be interested in attending the summer program at the Montana School of Creative Arts, June 15-26. A half-credit will be offered to all junior and senior high students, as approved by the local district. The class includes coursework in dance, theater, creative writing, voice and video. By June 5, contact the Montana School for the Creative Arts, 38 Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601.

CALENDAR

June 11-12--Board of Public Education, Helena (444-6576)

June 14-18--Rocky Mountain Health Promotion Conference, Billings (Spencer Sartorius, OPI, 444-4434)

June 14-20--Business Week '87, Bozeman (Rosie Strope, 443-7888)

June 17-19--Rural Education Conference, Dillon (Dick Sietsema, WMC, 683-7231)

June 23-Sept. 26--One-Day Workshops in Advanced Driver Ed, Lewistown (Curt Hahn, OPI, 444-4432)

June 25-26--Montana Association for Pupil Transportation Conference, Billings (Buzz Christianson, 256-2830)

July 13-14--Board of Public Education, Helena (444-6576)

August 11-13--School Food Service Training Conference, Great Falls (Gary Watt, OPI, 444-2505)

MISSING CHILDREN INFORMATION

The following is the State Dept. of Justice's most current list of missing Montana children and teenagers (age 17 and under). For details on the Missing Children Program, call Bill Erwin, Dept. of Justice, Helena, 444-3625. (PD=Police Dept.; SO=Sheriff's Office; TP=Tribal Police)

NAME	SEX	RACE	DOB	AGE	HT/WT	HAIR	EYES	STATION
Best, Helen D.	F	W	013172	14	5'8"/130	BLN	BLU	Hardin SO
Fowler, Grady E.	M	W	031371	16	5'3"/110	BRO	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Ginevicz, Megan	F	W	011278	8	2'8"/25	BLN	GRN	Polson SO
Grice, Jeremy	M	W	051281	6	3"8"/50	BRO	HAZ	Dept. of Justice
Innocci, Barbara	F	W	121170	16	5'4"/143	BRO	BRO	Billings SO
Johnston, Janice	F	W	011171	15	5'3"/118	BLN	xx	Polson SO

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